

**INFORMATION REPORT**

COUNTRY **Austria (Russian Zone)**  
 SUBJECT **Activities of Soviet Oil Administration**

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

1. The Soviet Oil Administration has recently proposed in great confidence to the Austrian Trade Ministry that the Austrian Government import certain drilling apparatus, pipes, and equipment for the Zistersdorf Oil Fields in exchange for ten to twenty tons of Soviet scrap metal, now in Zistersdorf. The Soviets are particularly interested in obtaining the following:

- a. Drill pipes, API specifications, all Grade D except for 13 3/4" drill pipe, which is to be Grade C:

Size	Length	Wall Thickness	Quantity
13 3/4"	4000 meters	8.38 mm.	286 tons
9 5/8	5000 meters	8.9 mm.	
	2000 meters	10 mm.	387 tons
6 5/8	9000 meters	7.3 mm.	
	12000 meters	8.9 mm.	
	11000 meters	9.77 mm.	1,122 tons
4 3/4	6000 meters	8.5 mm.	142 tons
			<u>1,937 tons</u>

- b. Pipe line  
 20,000 meters 3" API about 230 tons

- c. Pump Pistons (Pumpengesteenge)

50,000 meters	7/8"	about 160 tons
25,000 meters	3/4"	60 tons
		<u>220 tons</u>

- d. Barytes (Barit) 1,000 tons

- e. Disulgan, Tretolyte, or similar material 100 tons

- f. Tixoton, Bentonit, or similar material 1,000 tons

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Comment: In this connection, it has been reported in [redacted] that the Soviets themselves have brought in some drilling equipment to Zistersdorf. However, this attempt to induce the Austrian Government to render the Soviet oil authorities this service at no cost to the Soviets reflects the policy reported in [redacted] of cancelling all investment expenditures in Soviet-controlled firms. It is unlikely that the Austrian Government will approve such a request, since it is an attempt to obtain Marshall Plan goods with Austrian help .)

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2. The Soviet Oil Administration is also attempting to secure oil equipment through the use of Austrian firms. The firm of Adolf Riedl, Automobilbestandteile, Türkenstrasse 23, Vienna IX, recently applied to the Austrian Trade Ministry for an allocation of 2,000 pounds sterling from the Austrian National Bank. The currency was to be applied to purchases of special British brake equipment for the Zistersdorf fields. (Comment: The Trade Ministry is not expected to approve this transaction, which is not considered a bona fide application.)
3. The Soviet Oil Administration is also considering an exchange transaction by which Soviet authorities in Constantza, Romania, will be supplied with diesel fuel and lubricating oil, provided that the same quantity of oil is supplied in Vienna to the Romanian Government company, Redeventsa. This oil, as Romanian property, would then be exported to Switzerland, if the Austrian Government should grant permission. Since both the Romanians and the Russians would be saving all transport costs between Vienna and the Black Sea, oil shipments to Switzerland on such terms would be cheap enough to compete with American oil. (Comment: It is unlikely that this transaction will be approved by the Austrian Government .)

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